

A Sense of Solidity

Ram (James Swartz)

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Source: <http://www.shiningworld.com/site/satsang/read/144>

Seeker: Hi, James. Things are still interesting in the inquiry. The scales have tipped, meaning that there is too much evidence to ever fully believe in a person anymore, and it is a great blessing to have that sense of solidity. BUT that doesn't mean things do not still come up to self-inquire about. There is still much going on, but with this grace always of knowing I am fine there is nothing needed. That tipping point meant that the crucial point has been passed, and more momentum has picked up since then.

James: It is lovely to hear from you, as always. Inquiry is the nature of the self. It goes on well past the tipping point, more or less forever. You have to think, and thinking as awareness is a total joy. There is no other way once you know the truth. I think you will find that as the remaining *vasanas* are ameliorated the mind will sit still in bliss more often than not, while thoughts, more or less devoid of emotion, lazily float by like clouds on a bright summer day.

The sense of solidity you mention is the hallmark of a wise person. It is true self-confidence, knowing that you can handle whatever life has to throw at you with class.

Yesterday I was going through a set of cards that contained quotes from Ramana and Nisargadatta. Some of them were excellent, many unremarkable and in need of contextualization, and some were quite misleading. It turns out that there are quite a few people now who, like you, are well past the tipping point and are refining their knowledge, not always, but often with the idea of communicating what they know with others – dare I call it “teaching”? In any case I had the idea of organizing them into two categories: the ones that need no commentary and those that do. I thought that I would send them out so that people could write commentaries on them, exposing the problems they present. If you would like to try your hand – you are a great writer and I think you would enjoy the exercise – I will send them on. You can then send the commentaries back for me to read. I would then put them at the website, if you like.

Thanks again for offering to help with the videos. Yes, \$500 will cover it. You can give it to me when we meet.

We are now in Princeton, New Jersey, getting over jet lag and visiting with a dear friend. Life is grand.

~ Much love, James